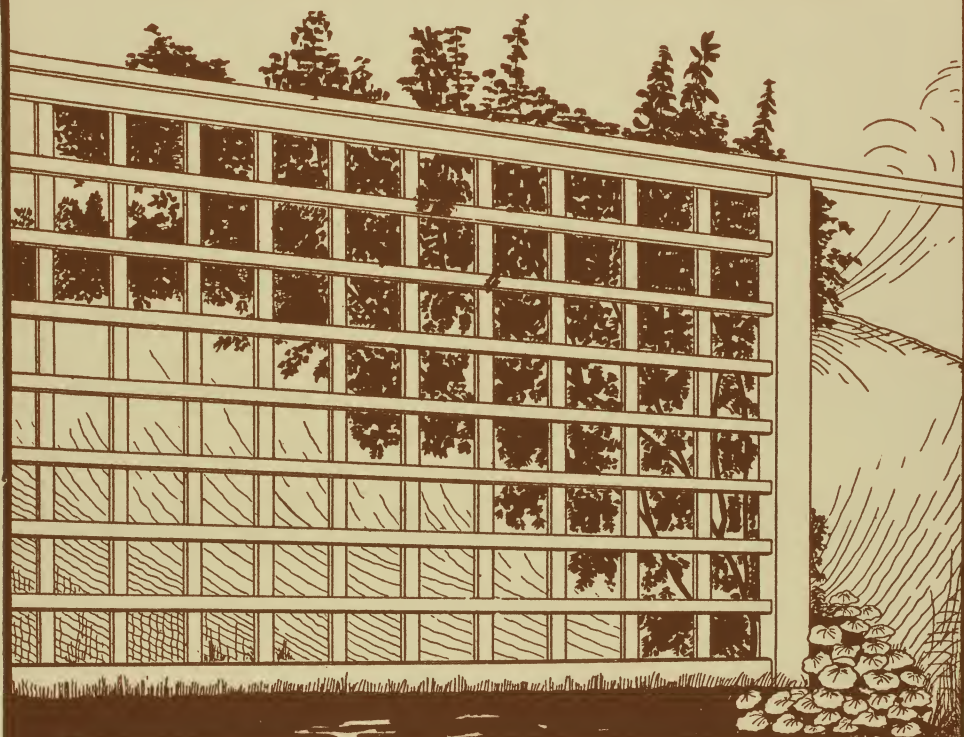


California Garden



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Roses

SEPT. 1925

TEN CENTS

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The California Garden

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No. 3

CHRYSANTHEMUM TIME

By Mrs. E. Strahlmann.

If you haven't disbudded and selected the shoots you wish to flower, get busy at once and "do it". If you find a brown bug which has a hard back, see that you finish him, quickly. Put a good mulch of fertilizer on and water well. Also you can use liquid fertilizer if you give a thorough watering between applications, which should not be oftener than twice in ten days. Never water only of mornings, for in so doing you invite rust which will rapidly spread and destroy the leaves. The plants must have the foliage as dry as possible of nights and do not spray overhead after buds appear.

Stop all applications of fertilizer when color shows in blooms and after flowers are open do not water only when absolutely necessary.

On most varieties it takes from six to eight weeks from time bud appears until the flowers are in full bloom; and for delicate colored ones it is advisable to stretch a muslin cover to protect the blossoms from dust, dew and sun, which will fade them.

Be sure to label kinds before all blossoms are cut so you will know your stock for next season, when shoots appear, to take cuttings from.

Each plant should produce three or four blooms as well as one, if properly fed, and all side shoots removed.

The pompon, anemone and singles want to be left to grow "nature's" way.

These remarks for disbudding and feeding apply only to the larger, or exhibition types.

I should be glad to see every member of the Floral Association have a few pompons (also every garden in San Diego) as when the autumn days come they are so cheerful in the garden for many weeks and as a cut flower nothing keeps better than chrysanthemums.

There is no reason why every amateur should not grow and succeed with the large flowering type. Absolute failure is impossible. The only uncertainty is the measure of success one achieves, and that depends en-

tirely upon care and attention given at the proper time. I am supposing you have removed all suckers as they sap the strength of the plant. In disbudding the large varieties remove all side shoots, leaving at the top of each branch two of the best buds for fear something might happen to one. The other one is left to rely upon. If at flowering time both are all right clip one out.

This season has been unusual as weather was warm, causing a very rapid growth, after plants had been cut back, consequently they are much taller than I like to have them. However, the buds appear at about the same time as any season, and the only thing we can do now is to keep them tied up, as this growth cannot be cut. They can be topped twice, but the third time the shoots that come are the last that will produce flowers.

When the chrysanthemum exhibition takes place every garden should be represented with one or more worth while entries. In that way we can grow, by seeing what our neighbors are doing, and striving to do better each year.

A JEKYLL AND HYDE BEAN

The ground bean (*Falcata Comosa*) has two kinds of branches bearing two forms of flowers and two forms of fruit. One form climbs anything at hand like brush or spreads in mats over the ground producing bean pods one inch long with beans one-eighth inch. Other branches spread out over ground beneath the shade of the first growth, bearing tiny, self-pollinated flowers that push into the light soil—as a peanut blossom does—and a single large bean in a firm pod develops. These beans are the size of the Lima and are good for food, and very greatly desired by the Dakota and other Indian tribes. These beans are gathered in quantity by the Missouri River Bean Mouse (*Microtus pennsylvanicus wabema*) and stored for their winter food. The Indian women hunt and rob these store houses, but never take all the supply and generally leave corn, suet, etc., in ex-

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change for the beans taken. The Indian says, "When one goes on a quest for these beans you must think only good thoughts and have a good heart; one must put away any grudge or hard feelings and especially we should think of our debt to the bean mouse for the favor about to be asked for."

Among all tribes is found a strong feeling of affection and respect for the bean mouse.

These beans have only lately been brought to the "Museum of the American Indian" Heye Foundation, Broadway at 155th street, New York.

THE TORREY PINES CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 12th, was celebrated as the seventy-fifth anniversary of the discovery of the Torrey Pine by Dr. Parry. Practically all of the speakers for the occasion were members of the San Diego Floral Association, and the Society was officially represented by its President, who, by the way, was chairman of the committee that recommended to the San Diego City Council that the Torrey Pines be set aside as a public park.

Addresses were delivered by Daniel C. Cleveland, George W. Marston, Hugo Klauber, Carrol Scott, L. A. Blochman, Professor Crandall and Mayor Bacon. Music was furnished by a La Jolla High School Orchestra and the U. S. Marine Band. The local Par-

lor of the Native Sons of the Golden West presented an American and a Bear Flag to the Park in an appropriate speech by E. H. Dowell, who called the Torrey Pine the California Birthday Tree, it having been discovered on the day that California was admitted into the Union. After the exercises Mr. Guy Fleming conducted a large number of those present through the Park, explaining the habits and manner of growth of these rare trees. The native shrubs, all properly labeled, were particularly an object lesson as to the possibilities of using them as an adjunct to our California Gardens.

GLAD-EE-OLA

At the last meeting of the American Gladiolus Society it was voted upon and unanimously carried that in future the pronunciation of this flower should be Glad-ee-o-lus, not Glad-eye-olus, as it was often pronounced by many of the growers. Accent on third syllable. Please take notice.

Many of our readers have trouble raising plants in hanging baskets as they dry out too fast. Try lining your basket with moss and plant your plants in a pot surrounded by this moss. Keep the moss and the pot moist. You will find that you may have better success.

The sheath surrounding the blossom of the *Seaforthia Elegans* makes a fine hanging basket. Attach wires to suspend the same. Have a little moss in the bottom above a hole to provide drainage. Then fill with earth.

Try raising the gladiolus from seed. The seed is very fine and has to be treated the same as other fine seed. It takes an extra year before you get any bloom, but you may get some fine new hybrids to repay you for your trouble.

CAMPUS TREES TO BE TAGGED

Every tree on the University of California campus will have an identity tag, according to plans of the forestry department, which will label the tree specimens, under the direction of W. Metcalf, associate professor of forestry at the university.

Both popular and scientific names of each tree will be attached to it by small aluminum plates, with the time of planting on the campus, unless it is an old inhabitant, the country from which the tree came, and the family name of the species.

"*Quercus Rober*," the Celtic name for "fine tree," an original part of the ancient Druid forests, will be represented by oak trees on the campus. Some of the beams from such oaks are in Westminster Abby, while the species also made many of the old French and English castles.

Quercus Suber, the Spanish cork oak, only source of commercial cork, will be fittingly labeled side by side with the English oak.

SOIL

By the Early Bird.

This magazine is continually importuned to print something about soils and has done so on many occasions, but so wide and deep is the ignorance on the subject that anything about it is always new.

Good and bad soil is merely a relative distinction, for soil may be a good growing medium yet lacking in plant food, and a bad soil might contain a store of plant food which was unavailable because of its constitution. For instance a sandy soil allows root activity but is not fertile, while an adobe restricts root action though possessing growing elements. The main factor in the building of fertile soil has been the incorporation into it of decayed vegetable matter, the humus quality, and this process is a mere camouflage with such a climate as ours, and the mere fact that in valleys and fills deposits have been made by floods, etc., does not affect the basic fact that generally speaking our soil is a mere medium.

So much as a preliminary to stating that for garden purposes we must make our soil.

All gardeners really know that in any soil mixture for use here, fertilizer is the all important ingredient, not a commercial concentrated chemical balanced ration but the good old smelly product of the cow and the almost forgotten horse, for bulk and vegetable matter is needed. This article is now the dairyman's main support, the last I bought was one dollar fifty a yard and scrape it up yourself, but even at that it is cheap. In any soil mixture at least a quarter should be fertilizer. A word about this fertilizer. The fresher it is the better, the advertised "well-rotted" will most likely be thoroughly dessicated instead. We have no natural rotting process because of dryness, and to do this artificially is a ticklish job. I have just hauled two truck loads, apparently quite dry, within twenty-four hours the pile had begun to heat and for two days it has occupied a lot of man's time carefully wetting it up. It must be wet enough to stop burning and not so wet as to leach all the plant food away, and it will have to be kept wet for some months unless it is built into a compost in layers, and then the compost should be kept moist. Fertilizer that has heated is worthless and that which has become bone dry is nearly so.

Outside of the fertilizer content our soil mixture will naturally be governed by what we have on our lot. Sandy soil can be improved by the addition of something stiffer, say adobe or clay, but this wants to be added below the surface where it won't bake, and vice versa, stiff soils need sand. Ashes help to break up stiff soils also.

To mix materials for soil in the garden beds is almost impossible, the ideal way is to make the compound in a bin like a layer cake. Six inches of sand, six inches of fertilizer, six inches of adobe, and repeat. Then keep the pile good and moist for three months at least, when it should be sliced down and mixed as used. Every garden should have one of those mixing bins and into it should go lawn trimmings, leaves and similar waste, but it must be kept moist enough to not all burn up.

We talk of soil as sweet and sour. This is a matter largely of drainage. In many of our gardens the planting is in pockets of hardpan and here water settles and the soil becomes sour, drainage is the only remedy.

Our lawns are put down too often in too light a soil, a good lasting lawn wants a hardy soil to hold against the eternal sprinkling. If the use of such presents too much trouble with the seeding a mere cover of sandy soil should be a remedy.

Top soil is now advertised freely at so much a yard, but it might be wise to inquire what kind of top soil. There are hundreds of acres that have nothing but a little top soil and that is by no means tip-top. Just stop and consider how absurd it is to try and get cheap soil for your garden, you need not fear getting it too good. What you want is that which your garden needs, stiff if you are light, light if you are stiff, and to buy just top or bottom or middle soil is verging on the ridiculous.

Different plants have soil preferences, for instance roses like a stiff soil, Begonias a light, loose one, and so in a garden of much dimension, different soils are indicated. At the bottom of the garden is or should be the soil and it is worth both careful thought and liberal expenditure.

250 ACRES OF SWEET PEAS

From 'Popular Gardening' London, England.

Santa Barbara County, California, has the largest "Sweet Pea patch" in the world. The "patch" is owned by the W. Atlee Burpee Company, of Philadelphia. Altogether there are about 400 acres in Sweet Peas in the Lompoc Valley, the largest individual field being the Burpee, 250 acres. Another 100 acres or more is devoted to growing other flower seed in the valley, and several hundred acres near Guadalupe are also grown in flowers for seed. This Burpee "patch" yields more than a carload of Sweet Pea seed every year for the firm, and the seeds are shipped to every country in the world. Not only is

this big concern's entire Sweet Pea seed crop grown at Lompoc, but all its new Sweet Pea varieties are originated and perfected here. The soil and climate are the finest in the world for producing seed of this particular flower. "Nowhere else," says Mr. David Burpee, "have we found Sweet Pea seed with such splendid germinating qualities as that produced here in this country, near Lompoc. The best and strongest in the world is produced right here."

FRONT GARDENS

(From Gardening Illustrated, England.)

It is very evident that people generally copy each other both in furnishing and designing the form of their forecourt gardens—if the word designing is applicable to such cases. Be that as it may, it is very certain that there is a great sameness in the style and planting of such gardens, so much so that it would appear that there is not room for any display of taste or skill either in forming it or in selecting the shrubs and flowers to furnish it. However, I think otherwise. There is more room to make a departure than is generally recognized. If the owners went no further than to substitute gravel for grass, they would not only effect an improvement in its appearance, but they would get rid of a constant source of trouble, as for at least half the year grass takes more labor in keeping it in order than many care to devote to it. A well-kept lawn, even if it is a small one, is, I am aware, a very agreeable feature, but it is not such that I have in view. It is those that are indifferently cared for that I feel should be dispensed with, and the space they occupy covered with gravel, I do not object to grass. It is the way in which it is too often kept that causes the disfigurement, and do what one will, all the time the grass remains there is an ever-recurring labor to keep it in a presentable condition; but if the same space were covered with gravel the cost of maintenance would be reduced to the lowest possible figure, as there would be only a few weeds to pull out occasionally, or a few pounds of salt scattered over the surface once a year would destroy them. Should green Moss accumulate on the surface, a good scrubbing over in dry weather with a well-worn broom would destroy it. An occasional rolling when the ground is wet will, of course, do good, but where the space is small the surface may be made level if beaten with the back of a spade. As regards the form of these gardens, I am well aware that we must take them as they are, and make the best of a limited area. At the same time, there is room enough in many of them to differ in some particular from those adjoining. The great point to avoid is not to make it ridiculous by introducing anything that is not in character with the surroundings.

A zigzag walk leading up to the entrance

door is most objectionable. The smaller the area the more reason why all the lines should be straight, or nearly so. But in the case of houses that stand a good way back, and the width proportionate, a little divergence in graceful and easy lines in the form of the principal walk is both necessary and pleasing. The width of the walk, I may also mention, is a matter of some importance. Where there is a frontage of, say, forty feet, with a proportionate depth, the walk should be four feet wide; a less width in such a space looks poor, as well as out of proportion. In small gardens, where the frontage does not exceed twenty-five feet, a walk three feet five inches wide is as much as should be allowed. In such cases it should run straight from the entrance gate to the house, and when convenient there should be a border for flowers two feet wide between the walk and the dividing wall or fence. If there is to be a flower bed in the center of the space its shape should take pretty near the same lines—a round bed placed in the center of a square or oblong space is not in keeping, but an oval is not objectionable. When there is a bed in the center it will, of course, be surrounded with grass or gravel. In such case proportions must be again considered, so that the unoccupied space may bear due relation to the bed. Supposing the latter is six feet over, the surrounding space (not reckoning the walk or borders) should be not less than three feet. These are matters which, if neglected, show a want of judgment in the execution of the work. If a little care and thought were bestowed upon the matter, the results obtained for the time and money expended in the keeping of small front gardens would be far more satisfactory; there would be less sameness, and the plan followed would be suitable in each case to the surroundings.

NOTES FROM FLORIST EXCHANGE OF SHOW QUALITY BLOOMS IN ENGLAND

I feel somewhat mortified for I had been proud of my Wrexham seedling Delphiniums, which were better than any I have seen around. But I have just been reading some notes by W. N. Craig who has recently returned from a visit to England and Scotland. Now Mr. Craig is admittedly a clever plantsman; I believe he can hold his own with most but he does not hesitate to say that he saw things in old England such as New England cannot aspire to. Shasta Daisies at the Liverpool show 6in. across; Scabiosa caucasica on 24in. stems; Sweet Peas with less than 18in. stems and four or five blooms, didn't have a look in, while Delphiniums were such as he had never before seen. These Delphiniums were shown by Bees, Ltd. the varieties being those raised by Watkins Samuel of Wrexham whose strain is popularly known as the Holly-

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The Sept. and Oct. Gardens

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Miss Mary A. Matthews.

Mr. Branton one of our well known Horticulturists says: "September and October are two of the most important months in the garden calendar, in these months make plans for a winter display do not wait till planting time is over and then regret it." Sow Pansy seed this month if you have not already done so. Also seeds of Columbine, be sure and buy the long type. Calendula, candytuft, and Forget-me-nots. Mignonette put in now should give blooms during the winter "Machet" is the best variety for all around planting, try a small lot of "Machet Alba", a very pretty white kind.

Sow another lot of Sweet Peas these with the ones put in last month ought to give blooms 'till the summer ones come on.

An early planting of Ranunculus and Anemones will be well, 'tho these bulbs can be planted up to January an early lot may give winter bloom the last of the year. About Christmas time I saw Anemone flowers from bulbs put in this month—Anemones and Ranunculus probably for the cost give more bloom than most any of the bulbous subjects.

Prepare beds for all bulbs several days in advance of planting, spading it well with a good sprinkling of bonemeal scattered through it—beds which have had summer annuals such as Aster, etc. can be filled with stocks, campanulas, snapdragons, penstemons or any others that are good for late winter and spring blooms. Sow through your bulb beds if you desire to do so Nemesis, Linaria, Lobelia, these are good fillers, personally I prefer the bulbs coming up through the bare ground, their own foliage usually gives enough ground cover to prevent their being unsightly.

Dead and drying flower stems, leaves, etc. should all be cleared away, burn and return the ashes to the soil with good profit as they have in them considerable potash and more lime both good for grass and garden.

Cut back all shrubs that have finished blooming, with Lantanas, Heliotropes, Geraniums, and other soft wooded shrubs are very apt to have their vitality diminished from the seed crop they have made treated in this way they will make a new crop of young, vigorous shoots. Anything sown a while back if large enough should be transplanted and

THE SEPTEMBER GARDEN

By Walter Birch

The program in the vegetable garden is a continuation of sowing and planting mostly the same seeds and plants as recommended last month, not forgetting to get the water down to a good depth below the roots, as the ground at this time of year is about at its driest, with evaporation still pretty great during the larger part of the day. As there are a good many young plants being raised at this time of year it is a good plan to keep on the keen lookout for slugs, snails and other enemies of plant life in the garden. The tender young seedling is a choice morsal for Mr. Snail and his confreres, and quick action alone saves the day.

So to refresh the memory of those of you who forget, use half a pound of Calcium Arsenate to eight pounds of coarse bran for snails, slugs and sow bugs. The last named is that flat, round, gray, cold-looking insect that is so numerous in damp protected places at the base of and round the roots of trees and plants. Mix the Calcium Arsenate and bran in the proportion mentioned, wet to the consistency of a bran mash for a horse or cow and sprinkle on the ground around all plants in the garden, having first sprinkled the ground with hose. Repeat sprinkling of ground where poison is scattered for three or four evenings, and you will be rid of the three aforementioned pests. This mixture will not hurt poultry or animals. For leaf eating sects other than snails and slugs, use a small tablespoonful of Arsenate of Lead to a quart of water and spray plants thoroughly.

As mentioned in last month's Garden, sweet peas are now strictly in season for planting. In addition to the many wonderful shades and colors offered this year, is the Early Blooming Spencers, there are four novelties of distinct merit. The New Blue, Orange King, Sweet Lavender and Pink Cherokee. The names are fairly descriptive of what they are, all being just a little better in color, quality, length of stem and profusion of blooms than anything offered before.

September and October are particularly good months for toning up old lawns. Almost all lawns that have been planted a few years have been taken possession of, more or less, by "devil grass" (Bermuda), which be-

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Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

Editors
L. A. Blochman
Alfred D. Robinson

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EDITORIAL

The world or at least our world is buzzing with a demand for standards, standards of living, eating, sleeping and waking, and though we commonly hate to be governed by these, there are cases where the absence of standards or a standard, leads to much confusion. Such has been the case with color description, and an endless number of purely fanciful color names have been launched sort of inspirationally upon a long suffering public.

In no matter has the lack of color standard been more acutely felt than in floriculture, or rather it would have been so sorely missed if it had not been for a cheerful, irresponsible go as you please, license to call any color any darned thing you happen to think of, and we have had flowers all called, say yellow for instance, that varied enormously in color. Take the coloring as represented in the Heriot Rose, which has appeared at the shows in the yellows, the pinks and the reds, till in despair a class has been made for Flame-colored roses, (example Heriot). In a yellow rose class we have Lady Hillingdon, Souvenir de Claudius Pernet, Iona Herdman and they are not remotely alike when brought together. However it is not worth wasting space insisting on the obvious, especially when it is a disease for which a remedy has been found.

There is a color chart containing eleven hundred and fifteen named colors which we from experience can say will closely approximate anything in color that may happen. This is, Color Standards and Nomenclature by Robert Ridgway, issued by A. Hoen & Co.,

Baltimore, Md. The arrangement of the color plates is most ingenious, enabling one after a short acquaintance to run any color to its lair in short order. The names given to the various colors were taken as far as possible from other charts and popular usage.

We are introducing this book simply to be helpful and to hand on the kindness shown us when it was presented to us, we don't know its price or whether there is another copy in our locality, but we are sure there should be.

Already we have run up against the folks who disagree with the names given various colors and it has been hard to make the point, that the actual name given a color is not so important as that the color should have a name that is standard.

Pardon a little personal history to make this point clear. For years we have wanted to prepare a descriptive list of Rex Begonias but found that so far as color went their differences lay within the greens and greys and the browns, and to attempt to differentiate by tacking on light or medium or dark in no sense filled the bill. It is unimportant that there are occasionally other colors in Rexes. Had we made a list as lengthy as words would allow it would only generalize when specialization was desired. But now with this book twenty, yes, fifty greens can be named and what is far more important, at the head of the list can be put a note, "the colors specified herein have been carefully identified with the Ridgways Color Standards and Nomenclature", and to anyone anywhere having access to the chart comparatively few words will give a correct picture. We have submitted twenty Rexes to the test of the chart and we found these greens, Pea, Dusky Olive, Sage, Gnaphalium, Hellebore, Cedar, Absinthe, Dark Cress, Light Elm, Tea, Pois, Dark Ivy, Andover, Forest, Dark Dull Yellow, and several Olives. Now these were not fanciful differences but were determined by cutting out pieces of the leaves and placing them upon the color chart and comparing them one with the other.

Doubtless many will say I don't know what half those names mean, they convey no color to me, take Gnaphalium Green, who ever heard of Gnaphalium green? This is not a fancy title, it is taken from the family name of the Edelweiss and expresses that peculiar grey green in which it dresses, and it appears in Rex Begonias one after the other and has been hitherto described there as Grey. Of course you will not identify all these eleven hundred colors, if you could and there were many like you the supreme need for this chart would not exist.

A great many folks know the Louise Closson Rex Begonia, it is a small shy grower but so unique and attractive is its coloring that it is universally admired and coveted.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

Turning to the color description as determined by Ridgways chart we find it has a ground color of Dusky Brown blotched in an irregular zone with Daphne Red. A number of visitors have been asked to describe this coloring from the plant itself and the result has been as various as the number guessing, a few of the colors were, Mauve, Purple, Pink, Black, Cerise, etc. but no two agreed. Even after the identification by the chart almost everybody said, well it does not look like that to me. If you stop to think you will realize that this one instance proves that the popular mind has no color chart. We think it should be given one and hence this screed.

DAHLIA RECEPTION AND REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Owing to the fact that the Fall Flower Show took place during the week in which the regular meeting of the San Diego Floral Association would normally have been held, this meeting was postponed until September 15th, on which date both the afternoon and evening meetings were held at the Floral Home in Balboa Park.

The afternoon meeting took the form of a Dahlia reception to which all those interested were invited to bring one bloom of each variety. The result was a very charming and exceedingly meritorious display of dahlias. The Park exhibit of blooms from seeds planted in April was particularly spectacular, and R. F. Cushman and H. E. Howell came forward with their customary delightful exhibits. There were also many fine blooms from the less experienced hands of amateurs, and the consensus of opinion seemed to be that the flowers exhibited at this informal Show were equally as fine as, and in some instances even superior to, those which were seen at the Fall Flower Show. Many visitors attended during the course of the afternoon, and at four o'clock tea was served by the house committee.

At 7:30 p. m. the regular monthly meeting was called to order by the new president, Mr. L. A. Blochman. A report of the financial returns from the Fall Flower Show was given by Mrs. Mary A. Greer, the General Chairman, as follows:

Gate receipts	\$685.90
Expenses	495.83
Net returns	\$190.07

Mr. Alford Partridge, as chairman of the dahlia committee, gave a talk on dahlia shows—past, present and future—which was very interesting. Mrs. H. W. Gibbs, chairman of the zinnia committee, spoke on zinnias, and Mrs. F. Leyner, winner of the silver trophy for the best display of zinnias, was called on to tell how she grew her prize winners.

Dr. Anita Muhl, chairman of the aster committee, gave a very enlightening talk on the comments and criticisms she had elicited from those who attended the show. The chief criticism in regard to the asters was that they were not displayed to their full advantage, and it was suggested that next year the tables be equipped with "step-ups" which would allow the flowers at the center of the table to be raised and thereby made more clearly visible. Mrs. L. Ellis, chairman of the decorated tables committee, spoke on that topic, and Miss Mary Matthews, chairman of the bulb committee, paid particular tribute, in her talk, to the beautiful Scarborough lilies exhibited by Mrs. C. V. Covert, and to the truly remarkable display of gladiolas from Mr. R. F. Cushman's gardens. Mr. Walter Birch closed the reports of the show committees, with a few words regarding the professional exhibitors, of which department he was in charge.

Mr. A. D. Robinson was the speaker of the evening, and after reading some excerpts from Miss Sessions' latest letters, he spoke at some length of his early experiences in raising dahlias at Rosecroft. In referring to the informal Dahlia Show of the afternoon, he predicted that the time was coming when there would be a "Show" of some sort held at the Floral Home every month of the year.

What a fine slogan that would be for San Diego:—"A Flower Show every month of the year!"

LIBRARY NOTES

Mary Matthews

New books both entertaining and instructive are constantly being added to the Library—this month on the table we will find Autograph copies of two beautifully illustrated books, "Flowers of Wood and Field", and "Field and Wood Flowers," by Henry Correvon, noted collector of Alpines both seeds and plants. While the subject matter is printed in French even to those of us who do not read it readily the colored illustrations (true to life) tell their own story and among them we will see many of our everyday flowers. These books were procured through the kind offices of Miss Sessions.

Two weekly garden magazines from abroad come to us regularly "Gardening Illustrated" is probably the oldest garden magazine published, first by William Robinson, well known garden writer and author of "The English Flower Garden", of which The Association has a copy. This magazine is full of information for the Amateur as well as the Professional gardener, every subject pertaining to the garden is considered all the old favorite flowers are discussed each month, and the reader is advised of anything new in the Horticultural world.

Equally as entertaining is "Popular Gardening" edited by H. H. Thomas, who has

written a series of garden books—no one who is trying to make a garden should fail to read in them two articles that appear regularly, "Flowers I can recommend," and "The Beginner's A. B. C. This week's Do's and Dont's"; it tells the Amateur just what to do and what not to do—in looking over these magazines one is struck with the keen interest shown in gardens even the most every day flowers that have been brought to perfection are commented on for the benefit of others. Flower shows are written up both large and small, and anything new in the plant world is written and discussed with the greatest joy. Read elsewhere in The California Garden the mention of Burpees, Sweet Pea Seed Farm.

Among our own magazines Garden and Homebuilder is full this month of instructive articles—an especially good one on border plantings—Stephen Hamblin writes on the newer hardy perennials and Mr. Berry of Redlands, Cal. seldom fails to tell us something new about the Iris or Narcissus.

The Flower Grower, published in Calcium, New York, is the official organ of the Gladiolus, note the change in pronunciation—authorized by the Gladiolus Society.

Another new book to be added to the Library is America's Greatest Garden,

The Arnold Arboretum

by E. H. Wilson

in the preface Mr. Wilson says the Arboretum is devoted solely to the acclimatization, cultivation and study of hardy trees and shrubs founded for this purpose in 1872 it is unique in that it was commenced and its work still is controlled by one man over a period of more than fifty years still director, he who made it; Charles Sprague Sargent.

Visit the library any Thursday afternoons where you will receive a cordial welcome, and have the privilege of reading some of these good things yourself.

SHOW BLOOMS

Continued from page 4

hock strain. The spikes carried over a yard of open flowers; the base of the spikes was as much as 10in. through and the individual flowers 3 1/2 in. in diameter. The firm showed these varieties 18 to 20 spikes in a vase, the height being 6ft. to 8ft. high and at least 6ft. through. This same firm showed a larger group at the Royal Agricultural Show just previous to the Liverpool exhibition, which by all accounts, was the finest lot of Delphiniums ever seen in Europe. But it remained for W. N. Craig to give measurements so that one can visualize things. I feel like hiding my head and my 2ft. spikes. O. M. Pudor of Puyallup, Wash. by the way, wrote recently saying he was crazy over his Wrexhams; they make his own strain look so small. Out in his climate the Wrexham seedlings grow terrific;

he sowed some seed of his own saving (last year) in April and they were flowering in August; no heat at any time. Seed saved in Puyallup germinates in a few days; I know it is so because I sowed some last Fall. Having got the Hollyhock Delphinium bug badly, Mr. Pudor tells me he intends to import all the finest of the Wrexham named sorts and then try to outclass Watkins Samuel. Pretty good spirit that.

FLOWER GARDEN

Continued from page 5

grown on 'till large enough to put in permanent quarters.

Watsonias out of the ground are rapidly deteriorating—do not keep them out any longer than you can help—also put in all the Freesias you expect to plant.

September is often one of the driest, most disagreeable months in the garden. Continue to irrigate, cultivate and if you have it, a mulch of well rotted manure is fine.

Gladioli!

Dahlias!

If it is real quality or unlimited quantity—

If it is the newest of the Californians or the best of the Eastern varieties—

If it is varieties that grow best in the hills or on the coast—

Ralph F. Cushman

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Cor. Plum and Xenophon Box 5-A
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—is the place to get them.

Our products have been known to Californians for 5 years to the trade in the United States for 20 years.

Miss Sessions Visits an Alpine Garden

Mr. H. Correvon's nursery at Geneva, Montreux, is located at the northeast corner of Lake Geneva and is in Switzerland, but the city of Geneva is at the southwest corner of the lake, 50 miles distant, and is in France. Taking the 8:30 a. m. train the route was close to the lake and the rising lands and hills and distant mountains all on the right were very attractive. The lands were highly cultivated and homes quite scattered, and a few small villages passed. The city of Lausanne, one hour distant, is well known for its beautiful location on the hills, with a port on the lake. It is a fine educational and musical home city, and many private schools are patronized by English and American students. Geneva was reached in two hours, and the botanic garden and park was passed just before arriving at the depot.

Mr. H. Correvon's nursery was distant four miles, and by taxi through the city was a most pleasing ride. The fine water front with its seawall and many excursion steamers is the feature of the city. Here many very elegant hotels and fine residences are located, and this boulevard is well planted, and trees well cared for. A few streets are wide and modern in appearance, and a few have no car tracks. Many small parks and some central parking spaces in the wide streets, besides the fine rows of trees on the wide sidewalks. Conspicuous were the plain trees, elms, linden and maple. On one fine business street high lamp posts set 150 feet apart had circular baskets 15 feet high fastened upon them and in these, bright blooming flowers and greens. All were in very excellent condition. The first and second story front balconies were decorated generously with window boxes. Various colored petunias, geraniums, marguerites, some yellow-blooming flowers, pink and red dwarf begonias, asparagus sprengeri, tall grasses, dracaenas, were in abundance. A public market with potted plants in quantity was passed. Many large loads of a coarse brown empty baskets were going out of the city on one horse wagons driven by women, for it was nearly 11 o'clock, and Saturday, and they had been to market, probably. A crayon factory had its high walls well covered with vines; conspicuous were Clematis, Jackmanii and Excelsa Rose, a small dark red rose in large clusters.

In half hour the nursery was reached. A telegram had announced my intended visit and Mr. Correvon was awaiting my arrival. A genial man of good size about 60 years old, full of energy and enthusiasm and the authority on Alpine plants. His fine book, Eng-

lish translation, on Alpine plants, Mrs. H. S. Evans had sent last year to the San Diego Floral Association early in May, he had delivered a lecture on Alpines to the Royal Horticultural Association in London.

After a few minutes we were among his garden beds and rockeries. The nursery occupies about five acres with the residence in one corner of the tract and a fine wall and handsome gateways next to the street. Throughout the grounds are fruit and ornamental trees which furnished some shade and divide the planting spaces into sections. There is a main pathway 1000 feet long bordered on each side with a 10 foot bed, which is a sloping bed and many large and handsome rocks are placed therein. All kinds of interesting perennials are there planted with high shrubbery at the back.

Very excellent porous rocks, many very large, are available for garden use and they are very handsome with much lichen and moss. Our California Romneya Coulteri showed an interesting deviation from the type, and he said it was a hybrid. Conspicuous plants were a pink seedling smoke bush (giving it the appearance of Autumn) and very attractive; a deep pink Japanese Astilbe, white and lavender Monkshood, fine blue delphiniums, a new sort of Deutzia, very lovely and white. A deep orange Asclepia, tuberous, from America, of which he has sold many thousands; fine Japanese iris in little pools with rocks at the back, among which grew charming saxafrages and dainty little rock loving plants. There were many fine specimen trees about; a cedrus Atlantica Glauca, a giant California Redwood and Magnolias in variety. A pool of water had a bog built therein and pitcher plants were growing successfully. On a rockery near the house was the finest prostrate Juniper I ever saw, and it was J. Sabiniana—the Alpine form. Mr. Correvon said he had trimmed it severely for several years, but it had been done so skillfully that it was not noticeable and it was now over 10x10 feet.

Several long three foot flower beds were raised two feet high and walled up, and in the rocks were growing charming little plants in great variety and in the beds low growing plants. The prostrate and smaller growing Cotoneasters were here located.

The double flowering gypsophilla paniculata was in great abundance and so very lovely seen also in many places in Europe. It made me quite envious as we have none in San Diego. It is a poor seeder and is grown principally from cuttings. The Alpine Eryngium that I had seen at Interlarken was

here in its glory and I was given a bunch when I was leaving.

Choysia ternate is such a success over here. There are many long and low beds for his multitude of small growing plants; 280 varieties of *Sempervivums*, which we know generally as *Echevarias* or "hens and chickens". These low growers were all very carefully labelled, and as borders for these narrow beds and division lines between the various sorts he used pieces of thin common dark slate. It looked like stone shingles stuck in the ground, but how very efficient and durable these slates were and no room taken up.

The temperature rarely falls below 14 degrees centigrade and one hour distant in the hills the lily of the valley grows wild and the Alpine *Cyclamen* is very abundant. He had a collection of the rare *Gentians* in its many varieties and also the lilies of the Alps—budded but not in bloom. A small lath house in the far end of the garden shaded a collection of ferns. Two glass houses and many cold frames were in use. His speciality is Alpine plants and rock gardens, besides a large seed business of all these plants, quite a list of which I gave him for later delivery. One of his five sons is associated with him in the business and seven men are employed. One man does weeding in particular.

I was entertained at luncheon by Mrs. Correvon and their granddaughter, and an interesting and excellent feature of the meal was an onion pie. A sort of large onion omelet baked in a crust and it was the principal dish of the meal. The granddaughter gave me the recipe written in French. Delicious fresh red currants from their garden was the dessert. Mr. Correvon has a fine library and is a vigorous writer. A monograph on native orchids, beautifully illustrated, has just lately been printed. I bought two books on native plants, the illustrations of which he said are the very best that have been made. The painting of the flowers for the publishers was done by an invalid girl at Lausanne. These books were mailed direct to the San Diego Floral Association. I also bought his Alpine flora in English and was able to collect nearly all the varieties illustrated, but not all the varieties listed.

Mr. Correvon promised to visit San Diego as soon as I have built my air castle, but practical rock garden, which I described to him.

My return to the depot in Geneva was by local train, only 10 minutes from the nursery, and Montreux was reached at 6:30 p. m.

The touring party that I was with went to Geneva by steamer, a very delightful trip. It takes three and one-half hours by water and I could not spare that much time. They returned by train when I did.

PLANT EXHAUSTION

This is a wide subject, and there is one phase of it that directly bears upon the work of the garden at this time. I allude to the rapidity with which many plants are now, or soon will be, running to seed. The production of seed, we know, is desirable in some cases, but it is not always so, as the perfecting of a crop of seeds means exhaustion to the plant, and how to prevent this should be the business of the cultivator in all cases where the health of the plant is of more consequence than a crop of seeds. Amongst all classes of plants the season has been favourable for the fertilisation of the flowers; therefore, a larger display than usual of seed vessels may be seen; but where no seed is required, go over the plants and cut off dead flowers. Owing to the weakened condition of many subjects through the want of sufficient root moisture, this removal of the seed vessels will prove a great relief. Take the case of a row or a few clumps of Sweet Peas, which are now blooming freely. These flowers, however, will soon develop into well-filled pods of Peas, which, if allowed to remain upon the plants, will exhaust them quite as much as the continuous production of bloom, which always follows when the dead flowers are removed. Some make two sowings of Sweet Peas when they want an early and late supply of flowers; but one sowing made in a good soil will yield flowers all through the season if the decaying blooms are picked off. Many other subjects will prove equally as satisfactory if dealt with in the same way.

At the present time one has only to look over a herbaceous border to find plenty of plants well laden with seed vessels; this is especially the case with Larkspurs, single Dahlias, Lupins, etc. In such cases it may not perhaps injure old plants to ripen a crop of seeds, but in the case of those that are not well established it certainly checks them severely. If all the dead flowers are removed as they fade, the plants will continue to bloom all the season. It is especially necessary to keep decaying blooms picked off Poppies, for if they are allowed to ripen two or three pods of seeds it will exhaust the plants considerably. The earliest flowers on the large-growing Sunflowers should also be cut off to throw the strength into the side branches which they usually make. *Mignonette*, whether grown in pots or in the open ground, suffers considerably when allowed to ripen seed early in the summer. The best way to deal with it is to cut off the oldest flower-spikes. Other annuals should be regularly gone over and the seed vessels removed in good time. If this is done, and two or three good soakings of water are given to the roots, a much longer display will be obtained.

A. G.

BEGONIA CHAT

BEGONIAS FOR WINTER

By Alfred D. Robinson.

Under this head I do not refer to any of the Begonias raised, in their millions almost, throughout the East and in Europe, generally known as the Lorraine type, nor the much less common winter blooming hybrids that come from Messrs. Clibrans in England, but to many species we grow in our lath houses here that given a little special care will make a brave showing at Christmas time.

First because of its glorious real Christmas red must be placed *Rosea Gigantea* with its luscious, big, round, green leaves, that is already making bloom stalks. I am sure we have failed to understand the requirements of this Begonia and for that reason a good specimen is somewhat of a rarity. It will appear quite happy in the Spring only to become a dyspeptic wreck in the summer reviving as the weather cools. I had always supposed it had to do this, till this year, when a large specimen was placed in a cool, draughty spot, and this was the only one that did not make a summer moult, from which I deduce that *Rosea Gigantea* must be kept cool.

In pinks, the sisters Jessie and Templini, the latter with blotched leaves, are also making some bloom stalks and can be counted on to furnish Christmas decoration.

Verschaffeltiana also is extremely early. This wants to be quite young plants for potted work as its method of stalk development is wickered to say the least.

All the *Feastii* and *Manicata* group can be handled and are especially fine in baskets. These are growing rapidly now and should be cared for at once.

In the whites *Nitida* is charming, making very well balanced specimens. *Odorata Alba* also will bloom at any time.

Pink Rubra, *Rosea Picta*, *Coralline Lucerne* and *Pres. Carnot*, all were in nice bloom last Christmas day as were many others, in fact with us almost any fibrous Begonia can be made to winter bloom.

All of this supposes that a certain amount of trouble and protection will be given.

During the next month all potting and re-potting must be done, using an undersized rather than an oversized pot and at least a quarter of sand in the compost, this is to provide against a clammy condition. A tight roof is necessary, if this Celloglass would

shed water according to schedule it would be ideal, but mine does not and I am contemplating putting up below it a light frame along which I can unroll and roll up a waterproof curtain over the benches, but so far I don't know what to use for this curtain. Given this roof we want all the sun through it that can come, that is if it be not glass for the light through clear glass is always too strong for Begonias. Whitewash does not modify it so well as a light muslin. If the Begonias for Christmas blooming can be gotten in some such situation they will grow rapidly, enough to allow of pinching back to bush them and of course blooms should be kept off till wanted.

Very satisfactory potted plants can be made of most of the bedding sorts if dug up now and potted and cut well back. There is one necessary warning, and that is that this cutting back should not be done till new sprouts have started from the base.

Where there is no possible accommodation but a window shelf, this is not to be despised, though then a little closer watching is indicated.

Some more information has trickled in about the Clibran hybrids. Dr. Houghton paid us a visit and from him we learned that at one time he had a large collection of these, but found they needed too much heat in comparison with so many other desirable kinds and therefore gave them up. Of a dozen I obtained by exchange from the East, in four varieties, only six are now alive, one of which is blooming, a geranium single red which if it were a specimen flowing over all sides of a big pot like the illustrations, would be stunning, but mine is a single, weakly stalk, which has to lean heavily against a piece of bamboo to hold up its head. But Miss Sessions visited the home of this class in England and possibly can tell us on her return how to treat the animal to make it behave.

There is one charming Begonia that so far I have found a complete failure beyond the one season in pots, and as it would be so wonderful for Christmas I feel I should give a note of warning, I refer to *Fuschioides*. I am putting all that I have in pots back in the ground to winter for already they were giving notice of an intention to balk, although for months even very small plants have been alive with their scarlet blooms.

The *Haageana* class will also bloom well

in our so-called winter and they are very striking.

I am now inclined to think that the slaughter of my innocent seedlings was as much due to heat as anything else, for with cooler weather the epidemic has stayed and definite growth returned. Looking back to last season it seems that then the action and reaction was at the same time. At any rate I throw out the hint and shall next year move all seedlings for the two hot months of the summer out of the glass house to a shaded part under lath. This change of heart is partly due to my experience of the past week. So sure was I of alkali content in the water as my deadly enemy, that I collected data, litmus paper and alum and tried to be scientific, but the pink paper would not turn purple nor the purple pink, so I could not ration out my alum a bit at a time as I had hoped, and the only one who has a laugh coming is the druggist. However, I still covet rain water for my operations.

Another mystery solved. For years visitors to my lath house have asked if the little frogs did either good or harm. On general principles I had replied, they eat insects, and I believed it, but had to conclude that they were shy folks who dined in private for I had never caught one eating. They were always gulping as if they had just eaten or were about to eat and sometimes they looked thin and then again comfortably fat but if they swallowed anything I merely caught the gesture, not the act. Now I know. There are French doors to our dining room and when the lights are on at night, bugs in variety perch on the glass outside and shake a wicked wing. A night or so ago, a small frog crept up on the glass stretching himself an unbelievable length as he moved and suddenly he opened his mouth wide, real wide, half way down his back, and engulfed a bug that was watching us and not minding his own business. The entire film was run through several times till froggie had visibly swelled and when the light went off he was still upon the window sill with hopeful buggy eyes. Now I know those frogs eat bugs and lot of them.

ODORATA ALBA BEGONIA

As illustrating the extraordinary floriferousness of Begonia Odorata Alba the following facts and figures are given: Two large plants eight feet high were pruned of their spent blossom stalks the result of three months blooming. Two hundred and forty-seven of these were culled and many left that could not be conveniently reached, then three stalks of bloom fairly representative were counted yielding thirty, forty-six and ninety-three. This Begonia blooms practically all the year and in addition to its fairylike beauty is delicately scented.

F E R N S

The National Fernery is now open, and ready for visitors. While our collection of ferns is far from complete, we are proud of our success with those we have on hand, and we are constantly adding to the collection.

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THE GARDEN

(From Page 5)

comes dormant during the cooler weather of fall and winter. The surface roots and runners are very much in evidence giving the lawn a most unsightly appearance during the cooler weather. As it is quite an expensive undertaking to spade up and lay down a new lawn, many people prefer the "toning up" process, which makes the old lawn quite presentable for another year.

The best way to do this is to thoroughly rake over the surface of the old lawn from three or four directions, tearing the surface more or less loose and pulling out or cutting off with your mower all the runners of the devil grass that are pulled loose. There is a special rake made for this purpose called a Cutter Bar Rake, and it is much the best tool to use, but the work can be fairly well done with an ordinary rake if you put in more time and use your mower, etc.

After getting rid of old grass and runners raked out of your lawn, sow about one pound of White Clover to every four or five hundred square feet of lawn. Use a little good commercial fertilizer, water thoroughly and in two or three weeks your lawn will begin to look almost like a new lawn, and if properly taken care of will be quite presentable for another year.

ROSES

California Garden can serve you better if you
tell it your troubles.

Last month this page had a general discussion of the preparation of the soil for rose planting and something about the selection of varieties, and now the subject will be, Old and New Roses.

There seems to be no method of stopping the rush for the new thing in any human activity and perhaps it would not be wise to do it if possible, for to do so would be to kill half the trade, say in the automobile game for instance, but in this matter of roses the stampede has put in the discard many well worth while varieties, and locally proven ones at that. This plea for a consideration of old favorites for this planting season is not made with the object of increasing the number of varieties, but to guide the choice of the best in the various colors, etc. for our local conditions, which are not ideal for rose culture. Considering the old, are we justified in junking the Cochetts? Let it be granted that the Pink was often weak in the neck, ran coarse if too well done, and lacked emphasis in color, but for vigor and floriferousness what have we to better it, and there is absolutely nothing to compare with the White, and even this year this good old variety appeared in the shows with the blue ribbon. The Red known under various other names being merely red edged is charming and everything else that goes to make a good rose. Leave out the pink if you want to, but plant the other two or regret it. Another good pink of excellent form is Lady Ashton and what sort either old or new ever was in the class of a right good Caroline Testout, the climbing variety is the best to plant here. In tinted pinks there was Madame Leon Paine an improved Abel Chatenay, why have we deserted this right good one? and also Clara Watson, I don't find these two in the list of one our largest growers. Ophelia likes us well and in this color Prince of Bulgaria was wonderful in our gardens twenty years ago.

Our young folks probably don't know there is such a rose as the red Marie Henriette and have never worn in buttonhole a right good bud of Papa Gontier. Go and ask Benard which is his best red rose for elegant buds and lots of them all the year round and he will take you to look at an old Papa Gontier with a stem like a tree and he will pass without a glance scores of the petted beauties of today, and Benard knows a rose. With one more example we will leave the wrongfully deposed and that is Duchess of Brabant. You

don't even know her. Well she is at her best in the bush, having a splendid habit of growth making a well rounded specimen most generous with blooms. The bloom is loose cupped and shell pink and there is no rose like it since the Duchess left.

These are by no means all the old worthies and it would prove an interesting little journey to travel through one of Benard's rose lists of twenty-five years ago, of course he would have to go along or you would be hopelessly lost.

Now for the new things, that so gorgeously decorate with colored misrepresentations the covers of catalogues and the imaginations of their advocates. The majority are in the color scheme of yellow and red, that is they flirt between these two. A lot of them lie in the danger zone for us being full of Pernet-tiana blood which with us spells rust and a tendency to die back. This must not be taken to mean that all of them do these unpleasant things all the time for they don't, but the tendency is in the blood. One after the other we have stood on tip toe and Ohhed before Soleil D'or, Rayon D'or, Lyon and Juliet and all of them linger here and there to aggravate with an occasional wonderful flower but they have with us the Pernet-tiana taint. The two Souvenirs, De Claudius and Georges Pernet will try to prove exceptions to the rule and be rustless. They are so charming one must hope so and try them but surely not in quantity while the old tried ones can be bought for less than half the cost. Golden Emblem, again Pernet will it stay, already faint whispers about defects are on the air, and the English accounts frankly talk about its bad habit of quartering. At its best it is superb but is it a garden variety? Independence Day and Souvenir de H. A. Verschuren both yellows will be within our reach next season and they are in our class, Hybrid Teas. Splendid individual blooms of Padre in the Heriot color have been shown and there are lots of other novelties that can inspire the right person to compose a marvellous description but buying new roses is like betting on horse races where the safe course is only to wager what you can afford to lose. A well known business man in the East when he takes a vacation considers as one of the necessary parts of his equipment a supply of real fiction, so he takes a novel by H. G. Wells and a seed and plant catalogue and enjoys the latter the better for its greater display of imagination

STATE CHEMIST ESTABLISHES STANDARD TEST FOR FERTILIZERS

The great demand for animal manures, particularly in citrus orchard fertilization, has boosted prices to such an extent as to greatly increase the temptation to add water and sand as a make-weight.

This practice has become so prevalent among some unscrupulous dealers, that certain of the more cautious buyers are now making purchases on the basis of analysis, the prices paid being about \$5.00 a unit for nitrogen and 5c a unit for organic matter. This puts a premium on high grade manure and penalizes those having any large amount of sand or water.

At the present time, the large proportion of manure sold in southern California, amounting to many thousands of tons annually, is sold on an analysis basis. The Division of Chemistry of the State Department of Agriculture recently analyzed a sample of stock yard manure, which on the basis of \$5.00 a unit for nitrogen and 5c a unit for organic matter, was evaluated at over \$18.00 a ton. Inasmuch as a variation of one-tenth of one per cent in the determination of nitrogen represents a value of 50c per ton, controversies between buyers and sellers have arisen when the reports of two chemists disagree. The ability and integrity of the analyst has been questioned. It was recognized, therefore, that at least some of the difficulties could be avoided if a standard procedure were used and this matter has been the subject of a large amount of research by commercial chemists.

Recently, the Fruit Growers Supply Company of Los Angeles and the Mutual Orange Distributors called upon the Division of Chemistry to recommend a standard procedure for the analysis of this material. Mr. George P. Gray, Chief of the Division of Chemistry, spent sometime studying the matter and after a full discussion, a standard procedure was unanimously agreed upon and is now being used for analysis of fertilizer by the principal fertilizer companies of the state.

Copies of this method can be secured from the State Department of Agriculture, upon request.

CALCEOLARIA

The only representative of this curious and charming family that can be grown successfully in San Diego is the small yellow, a native of Mexico and this naturalizes in our lath houses, but now there is promise of another and much more attractive one, *Calceolaria pratensis* which was collected in the Argentine between three and four thousand feet on the foothills of the Andes. Its habit of growth is very similar to *Primula Malacoides* and has bright yellow flowers. It was collected in 1924 and was shown in England this year.

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Do You Want A Green Lawn This Winter?

By L. A. Blochman.

Our lawns after a growth of livid green throughout the Summer are just beginning to show signs of deterioration. Our nights are getting longer and cooler and the Bermuda grass, of which our lawns are largely composed, are making their fight for self preservation by insisting on going to seed.

You who have experience with the Bermuda grass, also wrongly called "devil grass", wire grass, and many other names, have found out that you cannot exterminate it. No amount of pulling or weeding does any good. This grass multiplies itself by all means known to Nature. It seeds itself, extends its wiry branches in all directions and then takes new root, if you keep the seed from maturing, the gentle zephyrs will export the seed from your neighbor's lawn on to yours, and some even claim that the water we put on our lawns carries the seed.

Well we have the pesky grass in our lawns and we are going to continue having it, so let's make the best of it and do the best we can to mitigate the evil. In summer time the grass is bright and green and answers the purpose of a first-class lawn. The winter, however, is coming on and the Bermuda has a habit of turning brown and leaving us with an unsightly lawn for a number of months. What are we going to do about it?

Now is the time to act if you want a green lawn this winter. Firstly it is necessary to rake out the Bermuda with one of the rakes that have been on the market the last few years for that purpose.

There are several of them. The best one we have seen has curved blades and is lighter than the others we have tried. Keep the blades sharp. You will find it hard enough work anyhow. That grass is surely tough and it is a man's job to do the raking. First rake the lawn in one direction then go over it with your lawn mower. See that it is sharp and that the knives are set as close to the ground as possible. Then rake the lawn in the opposite direction and mow it at right angles to the former cut. This will take out most of the Bermuda and save its turning brown. Then sow white clover seed, about one pound to four hundred square feet, mix the seed with sand to facilitate sowing. Sow evenly so as not to have a spotted lawn, a little thicker where any brown spots appear.

Now go over the lawn with a very thin mulching of leaf mold or some fine soil that will not bake from the sun and watering. A thin mulching of very fine manure may be used, but it will be better to put on the manure before the warm weather begins as

the lawn will not need much fertilizing during the winter months when the growth is slow, but after it gets warmer, and makes rapid growth, and is mowed more frequently, then it needs food.

Clover by itself makes a poor lawn. It will only last a year or two and will be crowded out by other grass. Also it does not look so well just after being mowed. However, if you want a beautiful lawn in short order that will be an exquisite green for a few months, plant clover. For a new lawn sow one pound to two hundred square feet.

Keep your mulching damp at all times. In cool weather water every evening. If you have had a warm day, water again in the morning. Never let the lawn dry out, at the same time do not let it get soggy. Water with a very fine spray, do not apply the spray directly but let the water descend like rain so as not to wash out the seed or wash away the mulching.

After you have followed these directions and gotten the new seed well started, your lawn will need but little attention till spring. Watering the lawn twice a week during the dry portion of winter will be found sufficient unless we experience an extra hot day. The lawn also requires less mowing. Once in three weeks will be found often enough in cold weather. When it rains, the lawn will often go a week or two without water.

Most of us water the lawn too much. It makes extra work and washes out the fertilizer besides encouraging the weeds.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW

Though a definite date has not yet been settled, much work is being done in preparation for a Chrysanthemum Show, which has become an annual event in the Floral Home of the San Diego Floral Association in Balboa Park. Of all the special exhibits held in this charming hall, none have been so attractive as that of the "mums", which have appeared peculiarly happy in this environment. One of the main exhibitors has a larger planting than ever and the season is proving an exceptionally good one. The Floral Association is very anxious that these smaller exhibitions shall become better known as they give peculiar advantages to intending planters. There are always in attendance experienced growers who are glad to give of their experience for the benefit of beginners. Lookout in the daily press for the date of this year's Chrysanthemum Show, it will be soon.

STRAY THOUGHTS

P. D. Barnhart

Disappointments: They are legion. They occur in love, matrimony, in business; from youth to old age. The ones I shall write about at this time are those which cross the pathway of the Gardener. Sterile Berried plants are uppermost in my mind. Several years ago it was my good fortune to visit the Columbia River country, where an elderberry grows and fruits abundantly, the color of the berries, the most brilliant red. I was charmed with their beauty, and brought some of them home. They were planted, and with good care the plants grew quite as luxuriantly as in their native habitat. They bloomed, but set no fruit, so they were consigned to the brush pile. Two years ago I met with *Lonicera Morrowi*, up near San Francisco, full of fruit, the size of red cherry currants, and even more brilliantly colored. A half dozen plants were added to a collection of shrubs in a Los Angeles garden, and never a fruit have they borne.

Cotoncaster frigida, is another disappointment to me in landscape work in this Southland. In a climate congenial to it, bunches of brilliant red berries, borne on peduncles three inches long, are produced at every eye, on one year old wood. The foliage drops but the fruit remains, and the bush is gorgeously colored.

Sparrows: The English species are among the most beneficent birds on this coast. They have exterminated the little black and the red ants which swarmed over the garden, and into the house before the advent of these birds. Let us hope that they will discover the Argentine pest, and give it the same treatment. The birds have not multiplied as rapidly here as they did in the cold winter climate of the Atlantic coast when first introduced there. They are also fond of Aphis. Maybe that when they become plentiful enough, they will help keep this pest under control, too.

Most shrubs are readily started from cuttings. October is the best month to start most of them. Use a sharp knife to remove the cutting. Do not bruise the bark in planting. Plant in soil half sand and half loam. Keep moist at all times but do not let soil get sour or soggy.

Australian rye grass will make a good lawn for shady places. This grass, however, grows very coarse and tough and should not be used where blue grass will grow. However, mixed with some clover it makes a nice green lawn and will prosper where most lawn grasses fail.

REGULAR OCTOBER MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will take place at the Association's building in Balboa Park on Tuesday night, October 20, 1925. The meeting will be in the nature of a reception to our old and dearly beloved member, Kate O. Sessions, who returns to us after an absence of many months devoted to the visiting and studying of the gardens and nurseries of Europe and America.

All those who know Miss Sessions, and who does not, know of her wonderful power of observation and her inimitable manner of telling about what she has seen. We have missed her these many months and now feel that we are about to be repaid for what we have missed by having her relate her many and varied experiences.

We have experimented with lawn clippings in various ways. We find that if we mix them directly into the soil that they fill the ground with innumerable seeds and weeds. If we pile them up and let them rot they seem to mat into a mass that we can scarcely untangle. Left to dry where they are cut then swept into the lawn, though not a bad idea, makes the lawn more unsightly on account of the dry grass that shows.

Try mixing with layers of quick lime and moistening. This will produce heat enough to destroy the germinating powers of the seed. Then treat as regular compost. The lime will be particularly beneficial to hard, clayey or adobe soils. Do not use hydrated lime, nor too much of the other kind. We cannot afford to throw away any clippings as all of our humus must be conserved.

OCTOBER OUTDOOR MEETING

The October outdoor meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will take place Tuesday afternoon, October 20, 1925, at 2.30. Naval band plays from 3:30 to 4:30.

Through the courtesy of Captain D. F. Sellers the Association has been invited to hold their meeting in the famed gardens of the Naval Training Station on Point Loma. Those who have seen the wonderful exhibits made by the Naval Training Station at the different flower shows are looking forward to a rare treat on this occasion. The program committee have the details in charge and will announce full particulars in due course of time in the daily press.

Capt. Sellers will give a talk at 3 p. m. on the benefits of the grounds of Naval Station.

Those exhibitors who left baskets or vases, after Fall Flower Show, can get same at Floral Home, Thursday, 2 to 4 p. m.

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